

Year One Implementation Goals

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What are your goals for personalizing learning at your school?

As you approach on the first year of implementing your Future-State Design, please reflect on the structures or practices that you must implement at your school this year in order to be on track toward realizing your vision for personalized learning. Then, use this section to record 2-4 Implementation Goals that you will pursue in Year 1.

For each goal, we'll ask that you reflect upon how it aligns to the iZone Framework, how you will measure your progress toward meeting that goal and what supports you'll need in terms of policy, compliance and accountability to realize this goal.

Implementation Goal 1

Please describe one Implementation Goal that you will pursue at your school this year:

Please be sure that your goal is specific and aligned to your Future State Design. Please include a timeline for implementation.

Since the opening of our school, we have followed a very traditional 8 period day of 45 minutes each period. Going into our 10th year we know that students and teachers have more like 30-35 minutes of teaching and learning per period and over three hours a week passing between classes. To this end, we have set out to design and implement a schedule that maximizes student time on task and teacher collaboration time. We believe that this model does not serve our teachers or students as well as possible. We are seeking the opportunity to create more in depth opportunities for learning across all subject areas and for teachers to have more meaningful opportunities to work with one another during the school day.

Which principle(s) of the iZone Framework does this goal address?

You may select multiple principles.

-
- Personalized Learning Plans
-
- New Student and Staff Roles

How will you assess your progress toward meeting this goal? What are the key outcomes that would indicate your success toward accomplishing this goal?

Please be specific. Examples of desired outcomes can include: *each student will receive a mastery-based progress report next year; all 12th grade students will participate in exhibitions of learning in the fall; 10th grade teachers will have a common prep for planning each week beginning next spring; etc.*

We have set out on this work with our component partner JumpRope and our model design partner CSSR, giving each the challenge of designing a schedule for teachers and students that meets our big goals within the unique constraints that we have. Our original goal for implementations was the Fall of 2012, but we have now seen that we need to do some more thinking and planning for this shift. We do want to incorporate some opportunities for additional teacher planning for the fall and we are aiming to have a new schedule prepared for implementation in February of 2013 that will help our staff better meet the unique academic and social-emotional needs of adolescent learners.

What supports will you need to implement this goal in terms of accountability, policy and compliance?

As you implement this goal you may come across certain systems and structures that act as roadblocks to implementation. In some cases, the iZone may be able to help you maneuver around these roadblocks, either by providing direct support, or by guiding you to sources that can help you find your way around challenges.

Please review the Policy in Innovations document prior to listing the supports you would like to request from the iZone.

-
- Calendar/Schedules
-
- Operations/Facilities
-
- Seat Time
-
- Class Size/Teacher of Record

For each of the areas you selected above, please describe your ***specific and detailed request for support*** or simply indicate that you would like ***general guidance or advocacy*** to implement this goal:

Please be specific and review the Policy in Innovations document for guidance prior to completing this field.

We will continue to work with JumpRope and CSSR to find a model that works for our school community this fall. We will need teacher input and student input to put final touches on the program and build it out once we have a concept that works for the school. We will look in the spring to train staff on effective guidance techniques and advisory and support models as we expand to include the high school grades. In the summer of 2013 we will reflect on the implementation of a new schedule and determine what shifts are necessary for more success.

Please describe any other supports will you need to implement this goal in terms of accountability, policy and compliance:

(No response)

Implementation Goal 2

Please describe one Implementation Goal that you will pursue at your school this year:

Please be sure that your goal is specific and aligned to your Future State Design. Please include a timeline for implementation.

As a community we are constantly asking ourselves how we can re-imagine the current models of curriculum to prepare our students for demanding colleges and careers. When we did our research on what colleges and what businesses look for in prospective students and employees, we realized that professionals rarely work under the format or calendar of a typical curricular unit. Professionals don't work on a project in a discipline for 45 minutes, then move onto another project in another discipline for 45 minutes. Indeed, most professionals spend multiple hours over multiple days and weeks on projects. Colleges and businesses repeatedly stated that they want people who were responsible independent and self-directed learners who are able to dive deeply into projects and manage their time and learning in those projects well. We understand that it is our responsibility to, not only expose our students to these kinds of learning opportunities but to engage them in the aspects of project management and empower our students to take further ownership of their education.

Which principle(s) of the iZone Framework does this goal address?

You may select multiple principles.

- Personalized Learning Plans
- New Student and Staff Roles
- Flexible and Real World Learning Environments

How will you assess your progress toward meeting this goal? What are the key outcomes that would indicate your success toward accomplishing this goal?

Please be specific. Examples of desired outcomes can include: *each student will receive a mastery-based progress report next year; all 12th grade students will participate in exhibitions of learning in the fall; 10th grade teachers will have a common prep for planning each week beginning next spring; etc.*

To address the disparity between deep project learning and a typical curricular unit, we are going to create two (2) week-long intensive sessions of study we will call "J-TERMS." Teachers will design these intensives taking into account student interest and current curricular knowledge and skill sets. The projects will be designed to be focused on real world topics and challenges that everyday people (and/or professionals in the field) face in a particular discipline. The projects will contain multiple entry points and be designed to meet the needs of all learners. The design process will consider and account barriers to student achievement as well as typical human variability found in heterogeneous student groupings. The projects will include at least one created product and provide students the opportunity to present their learning to an authentic audience.

What supports will you need to implement this goal in terms of accountability, policy and compliance?

Please review the Policy in Innovations document prior to listing the supports you would like to request from the iZone.

- Calendar/Schedules
- Data Systems
- Seat Time
- Class Size/Teacher of Record

For each of the areas you selected above, please describe your ***specific and detailed request for support*** or simply indicate that you would like ***general guidance or advocacy*** to implement this goal:

Please be specific and review the Policy in Innovations document for guidance prior to completing this field.

In preparation for these deep learning experiences, we are hoping to convene a design retreat in October 2012. Working with CSSR, our iZone360 design partner we hope to integrate Project Based Learning techniques and Student Led exhibitions of learning into week-long, concentrated learning experiences. Our teachers will then meet with CSSR coaches after the retreat each month to review curriculum and to gain a better understand of how to create deep and meaningful multi-day projects that will challenge students to learn and demonstrate mastery of particular disciplinary skills and content in a real-world context. The first intensive will be accomplished in late January 2013. Following, CSSR will help us debrief and reflect on the process. We will then reset the planning process and begin to create the next round of intensives to be accomplished in June 2013.

Please describe any other supports will you need to implement this goal in terms of accountability, policy and compliance:

(No response)

Would you like to enter another goal?

No

After You Submit...

After you submit this form, you will have the option of downloading it for future reference. Since your Implementation Goals will be the basis for your Component Partner and Laptop requests, please select the "Download Your Responses" option after you submit in order to have a copy of your goals on hand as you complete your planning.